

[0021] What is claimed is:

1. A fastener apparatus for use with footwear of the type having opposed pairs of eyelets, cloth tabs, as stated in Paragraph 10 therein, said fastener comprising:

A first mating member comprising a curved stop end and a central segment of elastomeric material connecting the opposing pairs of the first mating member;

A second mating member having a vertical post extending from a circular base with said vertical post extending through an eyelet in the shoe;

Means for securing and removing the first mating member from the second mating member.

2. The article as described in claim, in which a segment of elastomeric cord between the opposing stop elements provides the means of securing the ornamental elements thereon.
3. A fastener apparatus wherein said segment of the second mating member is essential cylindrical in shape with two extended longitudinal flanges.
4. A fastener apparatus wherein the extended longitudinal flanges in claim 3 fit securely into the receiving hollow of the first mating member.
5. A fastener apparatus in which the stop members comprise essentially an elongated

spherical shape.

6. A fastener apparatus where the central segment of elastomeric material is held firmly in place by the stop members and additionally by the mating of the two mating members.
7. A fastener apparatus recited in claim 6 where the ornamental elements consist of various colors of elastomeric material.
8. A fastener apparatus which has detachable securement.

Claim

A system for securing a shoe/sneaker/boot onto a foot of the wearer, the shoe having an upper part with opposed eyelets to be held together in securing the shoe to a foot.

A two step process which includes putting the bottom half through each eyelet which will be held there by surface area being larger than the eyelet, and then snapping the top onto the protruding half which sticks up through the eyelets.

Also there are plastic/metal hook shaped embodiments, which can be used for footwear which does not have eyelets. They will hook through the material tabs on running shoes, or hook around the c shaped clips on some boots. Both designs use elastic between the ends to keep the shoe onto the foot.

Both designs will expand allowing the wearer to slip into the shoe/boot/sneaker without having to tie laces, which is difficult for over weight people, little kids and the elderly. It also eliminates laces which come untied throughout the day and present a tripping hazard.

In overcoming the obvious disadvantages of cloth laces, the new invention will be elastic of different colors and shapes to attract/fulfill the customer's needs. Also, it is in keeping with styles attractive to most youths who will be happy with the changes.

My proposed invention will hold up during sports activities and everyday walking better than pat

inventions due to the extra thought when it came to locking and the sheer holding power of elastic on the of the design. Also I provide a design that makes it easy to grasp to disconnect unlike past inventions. Also I give enough surface area for designs colors, which will be helpful in sales.

### Cross Reference

The proposed invention I have submitted is improved drastically from the one that Mr. Fortune has made. First, my proposed invention has superior locking power over past ones. Also I improved the durability of the concept by making an inverted spoon design that will not only help in unlocking but gives substantial room for holding the elastic which will span the gap between the eyelets. On Mr. Fortune's design he doesn't give any thought into locking/durability or style. I have. My surface area not only aids in its strength but gives room for style, which is just as important. My locking is designed to lock by three barbs, which will hold with lateral/vertical pressures applied during walking/running/playing. My elastic holding power is greater than all others, which adds to the durability. My design is better than all others from style, to durability, to locking and giving people the option to pick a color that suits their needs to keep up with changing styles.